

Providing Feedback for Draft Flood Hazard Products

Iowa Statewide Floodplain Mapping Project
A collaboration between the Iowa Flood Center and the Iowa Department of Natural Resources

Home

Draft Flood Hazard Maps

100- and 500-year Draft Flood Hazard Products are available online.

View the Maps

Flood Risk Management Maps

Scour-prone floodplain areas, flood depths, and gradients of flood risk.

View the Maps

Home

In partnership with the [Iowa Department of Natural Resources \(DNR\)](#), the [Iowa Flood Center \(IFC\)](#) is completing draft flood hazard products for the [85 Iowa counties](#) that were declared Presidential Disaster Areas following the 2008 floods. The flood hazard products will delineate boundaries of flooded areas for the 1-percent annual chance (100-year) and 0.2-percent annual chance (500-year) flood.

Draft Flood Hazard Products

The work is being completed and made available to the public in [sequence](#). When completed, the draft flood hazard products will be available by county via an online Google Maps-based interface.

Important Note: While some of the products created may be adopted by FEMA and become regulatory, maps provided at the [Iowa Flood Maps](#) link are **not** regulatory maps. The products are being provided on this site for informational purposes. Iowans interested in map information for flood insurance purposes should visit the [FEMA Map Service Center](#) or contact local officials to view the current regulatory map for their jurisdiction.

Draft Flood Hazard Product Review Meetings

None scheduled.

Last modified on February 20th, 2015
Posted on September 27th, 2013

Navigate to the IFC website, www.iowafloodmaps.org, and click on **View the Maps** under **Draft Flood Hazard Maps**.

IOWA DRAFT FLOOD HAZARD MAPS

Draft Flood Hazard Maps
One-percent annual (100-year) flood boundary and 0.2-percent annual (500-year) floodplain boundaries

Preliminary Flood Insurance Rate Maps
One-percent annual (100-year) flood boundary and 0.2-percent annual (500-year) floodplain boundaries under review for adoption by FEMA and the NFIP

Flood Insurance Rate Maps
One-percent annual (100-year) flood boundary and 0.2-percent annual (500-year) floodplain boundaries adopted by FEMA and the NFIP. While these data are provided for informational purposes, any data to be used for regulatory purposes should be obtained directly from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (<https://www.fema.gov>)

VIEW MAPS

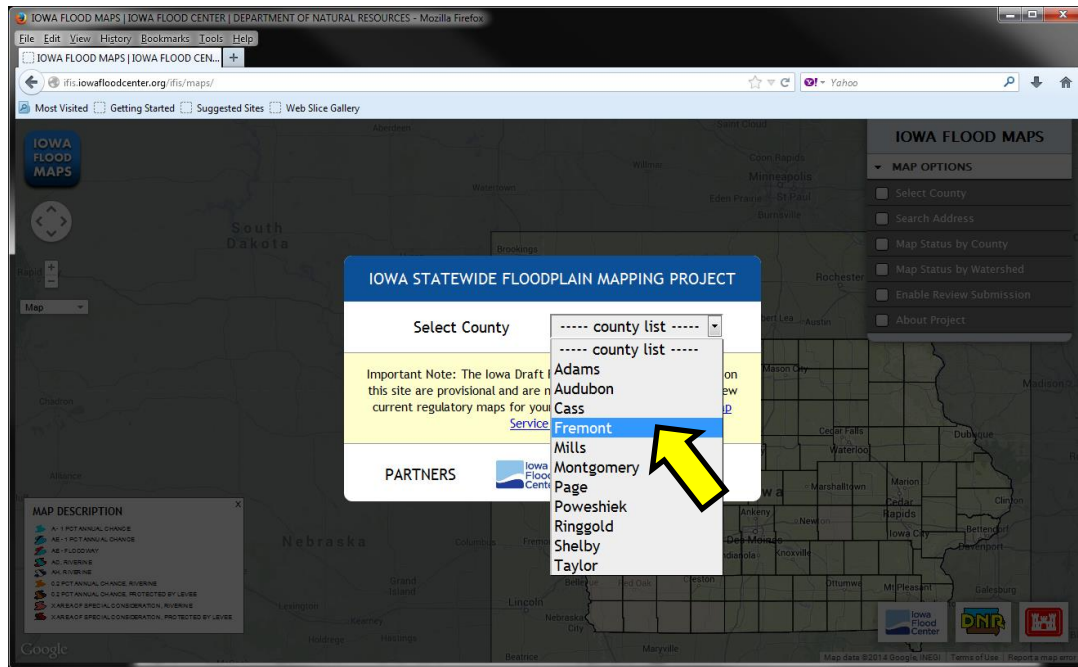
DISCLAIMER
Draft Flood Hazard Maps and Preliminary Flood Insurance Rate Maps can be viewed with the understanding and concurrence to the following conditions:

- Flood hazard information provided is preliminary and subject to revision.
- Flood hazard information provided should not be used for regulation, enforcement, or insurance rating purposes.
- Flood hazard information provided is intended for outreach, advisory, and review purposes.

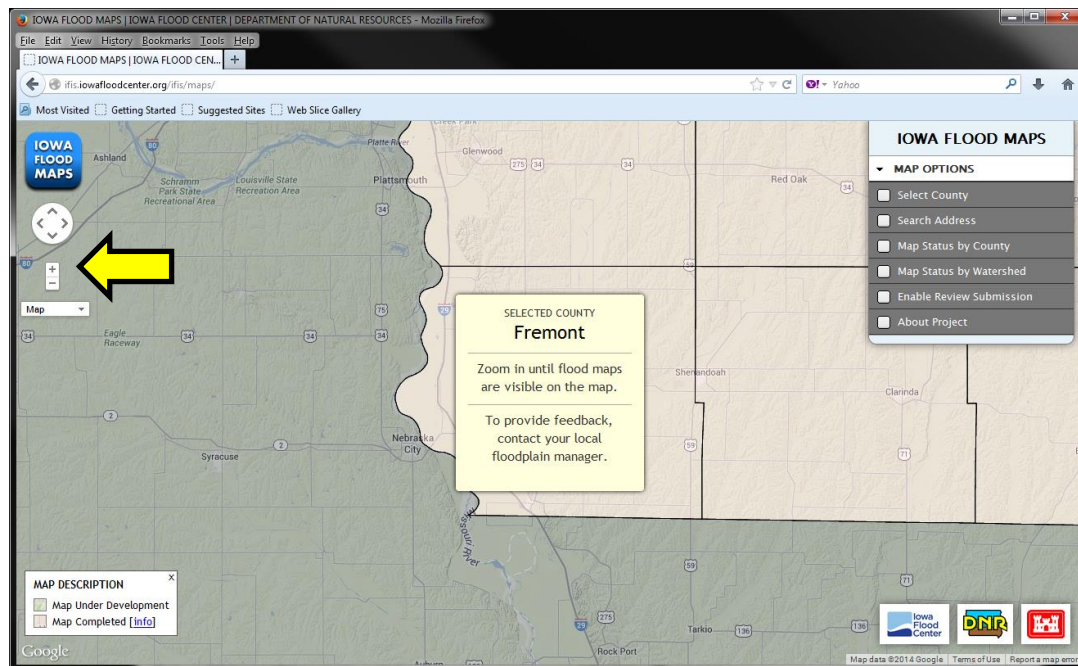
ABOUT MAPS **HELP & TUTORIAL** **VIDEO TUTORIAL** **WEB SERVICE** **DATA DOWNLOAD** **CONTACT US**

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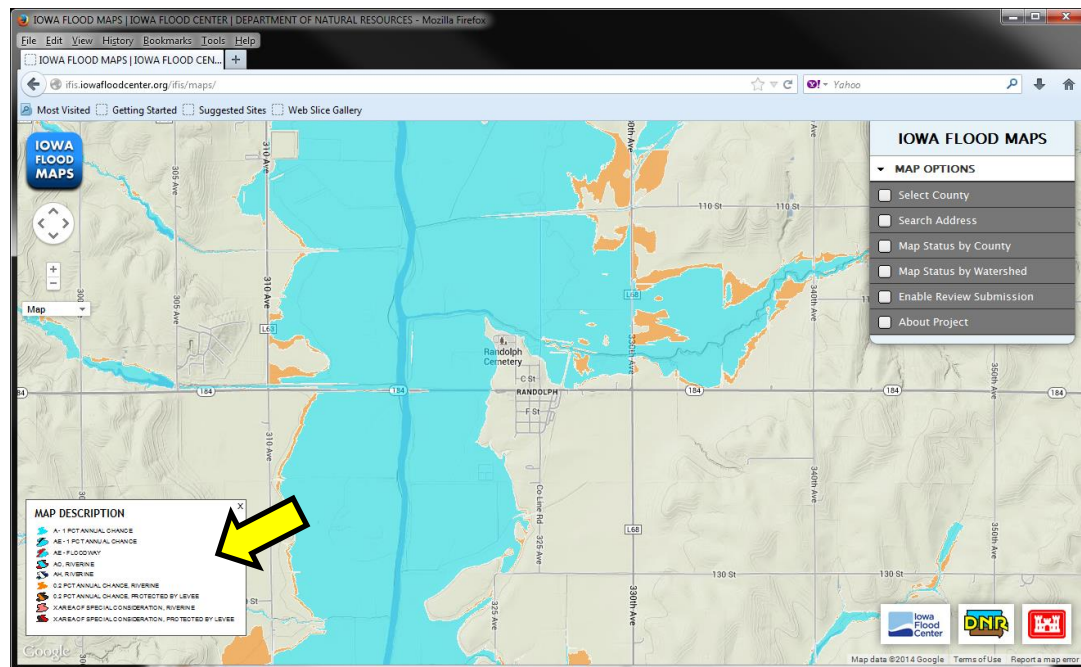
You will be taken to a description window with information about the project and links to other helpful information, click on **View Maps** to go into the feedback/viewing application.



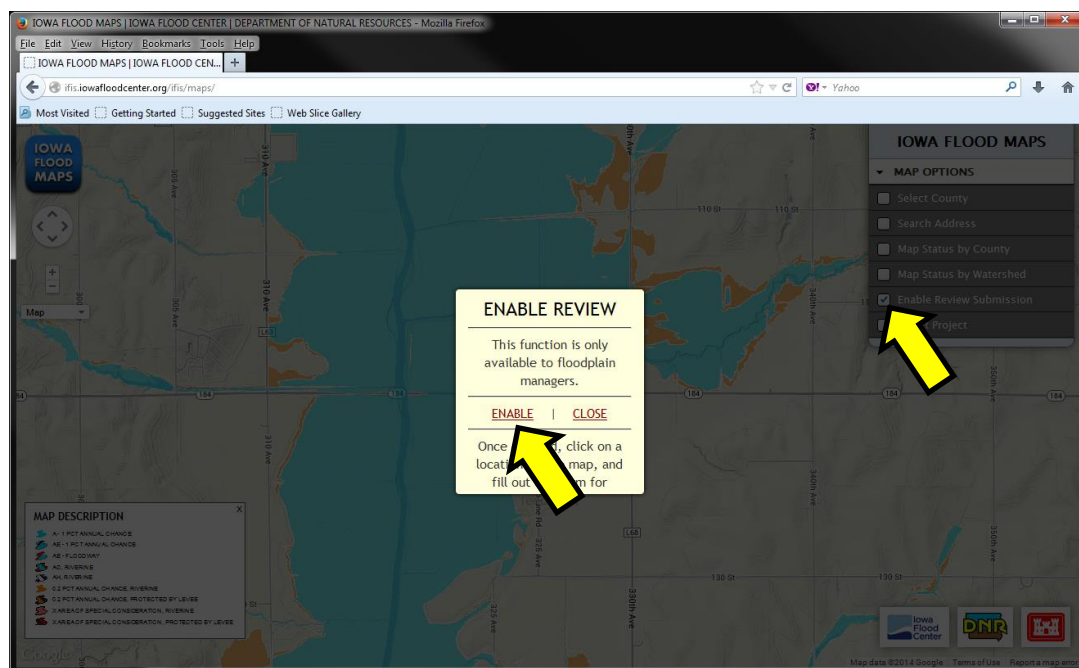
Click on the county of interest in the "Select County" dropdown to zoom to county.



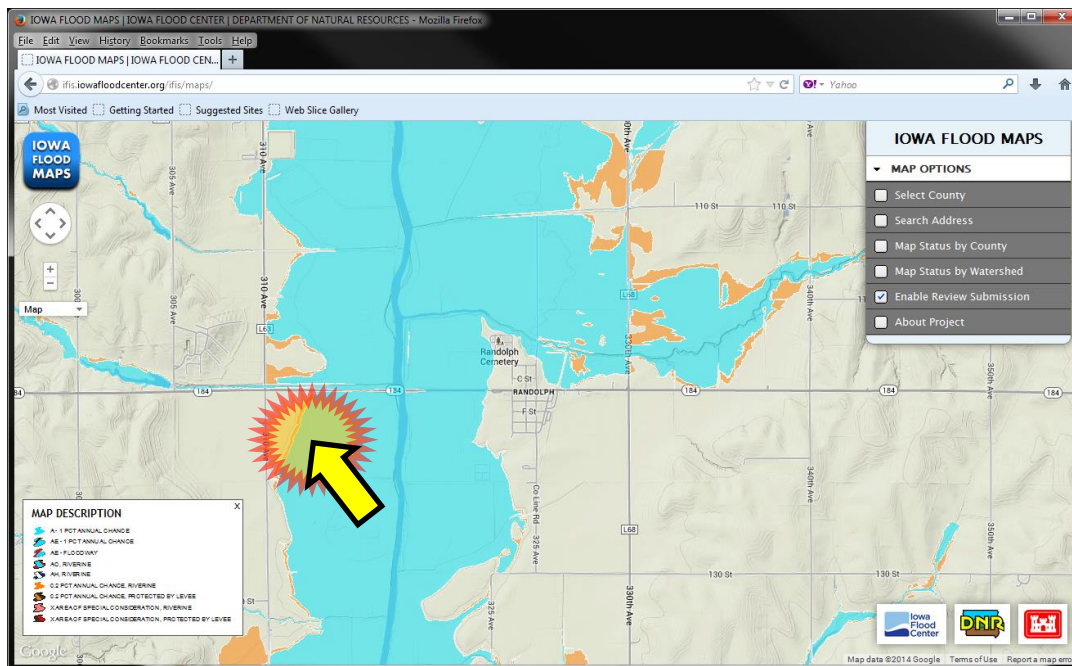
You will be taken to the county of interest, zoom in until the inundations show up. You can zoom and pan using the Google Maps onscreen tools, or using the mouse wheel to zoom and holding down the right mouse button to pan.



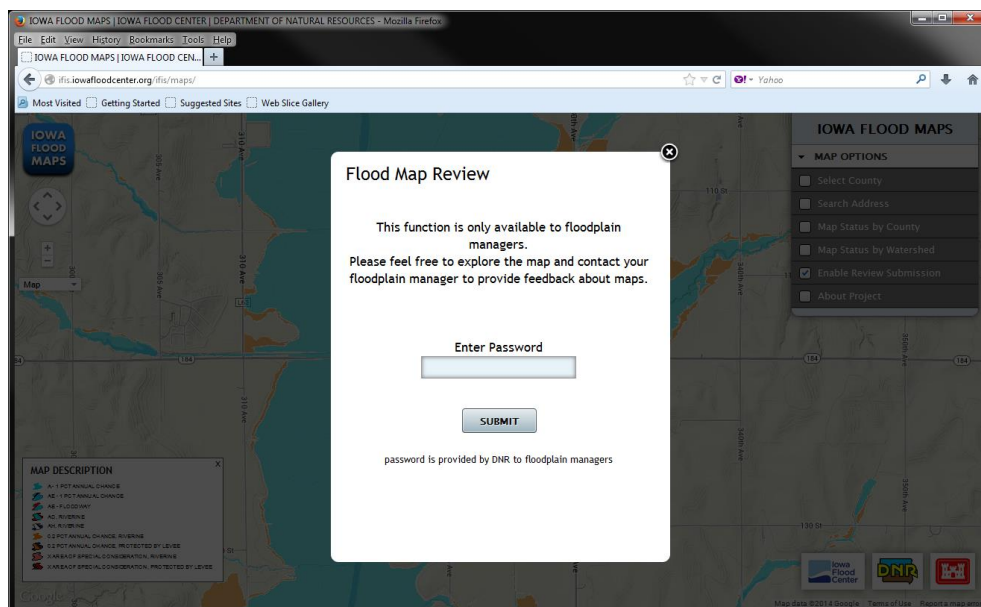
100- and 500-year mapping data that are under review or have completed the review process are displayed in the same interface. They are distinguished by color scheme: 100-year floodplain boundaries are **blue**, 500-year floodplain boundaries are **orange**. A legend is in the lower left.



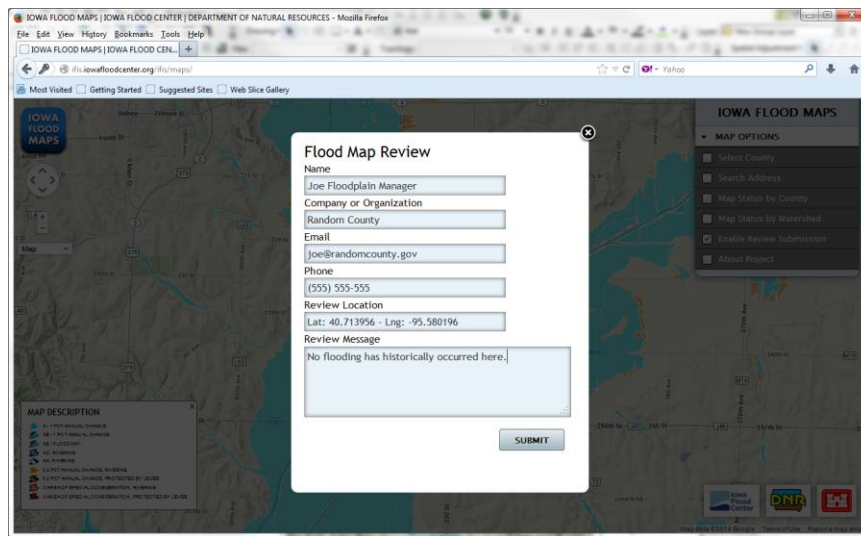
In order to provide feedback first you must check the "Enable Review Submission" button in the upper right. Then click **ENABLE** in the popup that appears.



Once the user has zoomed and/or panned to the location of interest, they can identify the location they would like to comment on using a **single mouse click**.



A dialog box will appear click "I am a Floodplain Manager", another will appear asking the user for a password. County flood plain management officials will be given a password at our meeting and are asked to be our point of contact for review purposes. Please submit comments for the public if valid circumstances are present to justify further inspection of the maps.



After clicking “submit” (assuming the correct password was entered) another dialog box will appear asking the user for contact information and comments. The coordinates of the review location will be populated automatically. After the user clicks “submit,” the data are stored in a Google Docs spreadsheet.

Following the 30-day review period for a given watershed/county, we will extract the data that overlap the watershed/county using ArcGIS and develop a document responding to the comments.

Viewing Flood Risk Management Maps

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Draft Flood Hazard Product Review Meetings

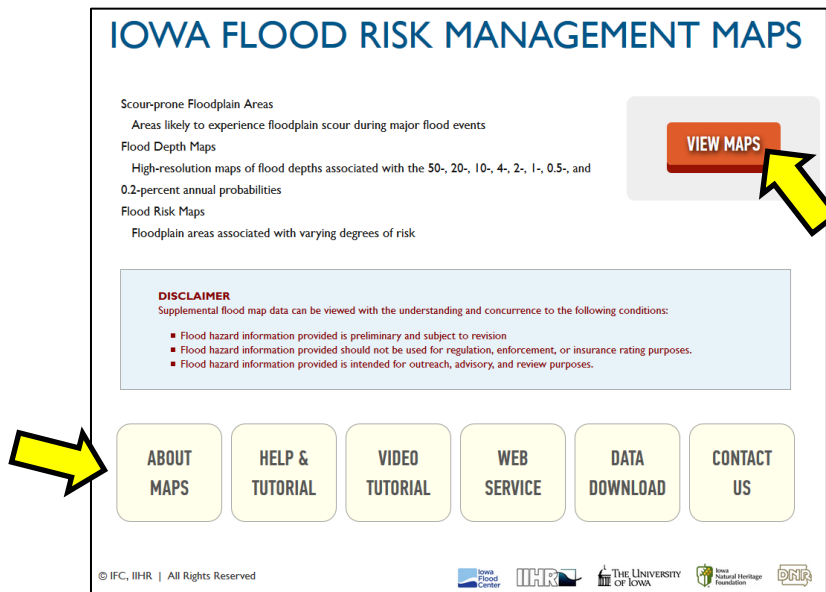
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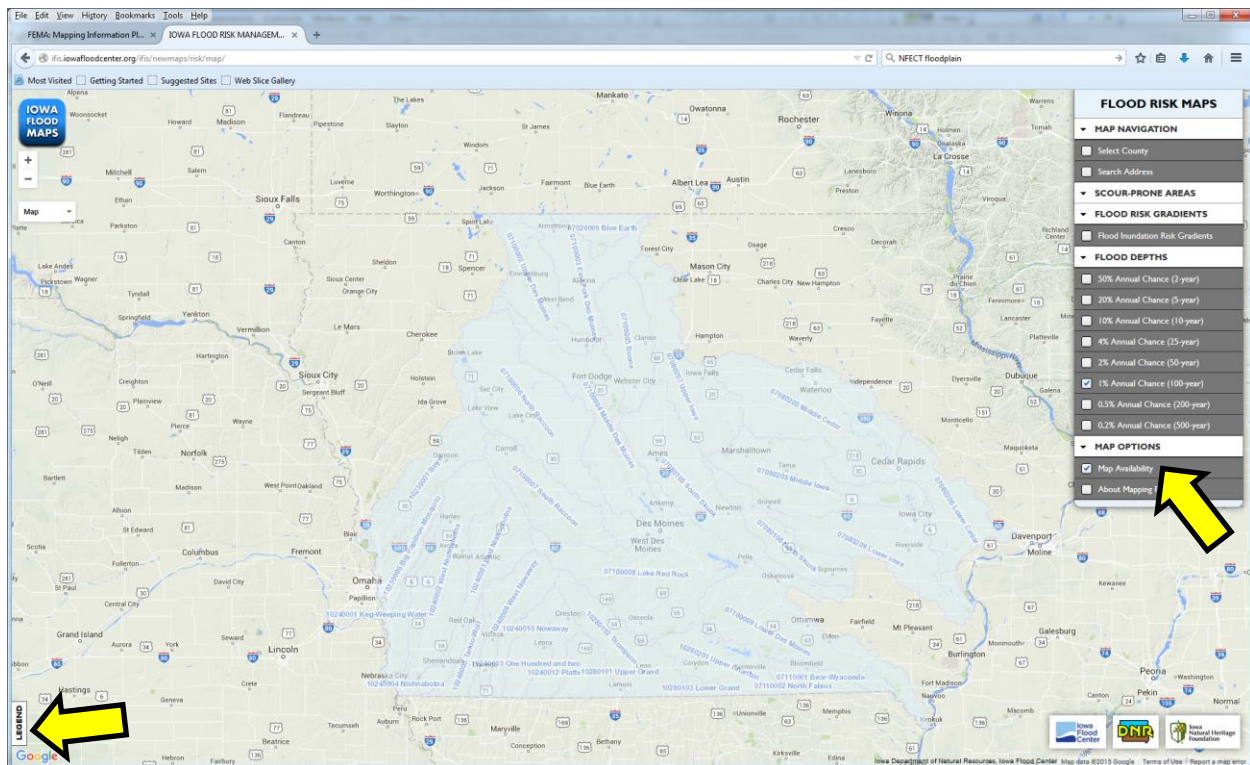
Navigate to the IFC website, www.iowafloodmaps.org, and click on **View the Maps** under **Flood Risk Management Maps**.

Instead of the previous set of data you may have gone into, which was regulatory only, this will be data for all 8 frequencies which include the 2yr, 5yr, 10yr, 25yr, 50yr, 100yr, 250yr and 500yr. These can also be referred to as 50%, 20%, 10%, 4%, 2%, 1% and 0.2 % annual chance frequency respectively. This data is meant to provide a more overall picture of the flooding source. Rather than just giving the low frequency but high water events (100 and 500 year) that are used for regulatory purposes the higher frequency but lower water events are shown as well. So the 2yr event, which is a 50% annual chance of happening every year, can be considered when planning development or natural resource practices.

There will be a **Flood Risk Gradient** dataset that shows a compilation of all 8 frequencies to detect flooding hotspots. Also included are **Depth Grids** which show the depth of flooding at a particular flooding event frequency. This can be used in deciding during emergency response if evacuation or elevation is appropriate for sites with hazardous chemicals or if sandbagging is an appropriate response for a city or neighborhood. There are also **Scour Prone Potential** maps which show scour potential for flooding events. These can be used for locating areas of highest scour potential in order to control erosion or plan for infrastructure improvements. More information can be found in the "About Maps"

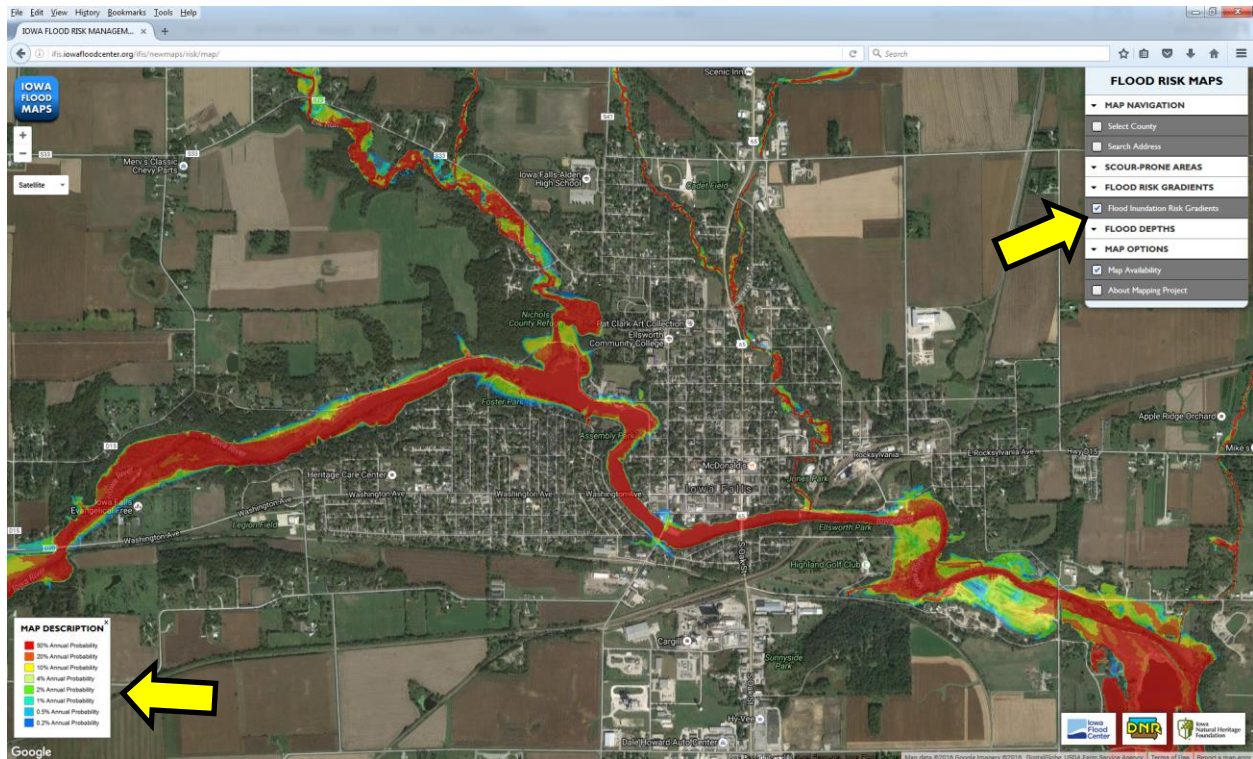


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Click on Map Availability to see where Flood Risk Management products are available (blue shaded watersheds). There is a listing of products available in this dropdown as well that enable the user to look at different % Annual Chance Flood Depths (Depth Grids) as well as Scour-Prone Areas. Legends for these products will appear in the lower left of the window when you start viewing with Flood Risk Gradient being the default dataset. Click on legend in bottom left.

Flood Risk Gradient is a compilation of all 8 frequencies on top of each other. This can be very useful for locating hotspots of flooding with the 2yr being shaded red. See legend in bottom left.



Depth Grids for flooding frequencies.

